

C E N T R A L I N T E L L I G E N C E A G E N C Y
O F F I C E O F N A T I O N A L E S T I M A T E S

1 May 1951

SUBJECT: NIE-34: TERMS OF REFERENCE: SPAIN'S POSITION IN THE
EAST-WEST CONFLICT (Revised draft for
Board consideration)

T H E P R O B L E M

To estimate, in the light of the US decision to associate Spain with the Western defense effort, the various contributions Spain could make to US security and to the defense of Western Europe and the Mediterranean, as well as to examine the military, political and economic problems of associating Spain with the Western defense effort.

Q U E S T I O N S B E A R I N G O N T H E P R O B L E M

- I. WHAT ARE THE MILITARY POTENTIALITIES OF SPAIN IN WESTERN DEFENSE?
 - A. Military Bases (air, naval and supply).
 - B. A redoubt in the event NATO forces are defeated north of the Pyrenees by Soviet forces.

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- C. A contributor of manpower and economic resources to the NATO defense effort.

II. WHAT INTERNAL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY FACTORS WILL AFFECT SPAIN'S ABILITY TO REALIZE THESE POTENTIALITIES?

- A. Political: Stability of the Franco regime, attitude of the people toward defensive association with the West, probable effect on the Franco regime of such association with the West, Franco's foreign policy objectives, etc.
- B. Economic: Strengths and weaknesses of the Spanish economy, particularly with respect to those aspects of the economy of potential military significance.
- C. Military: Readiness of the Spanish armed forces, state of training and equipment, etc.

III. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE FACTORS, TO WHAT EXTENT CAN SPAIN CONTRIBUTE TO THE WESTERN DEFENSE EFFORT AND WHAT PROBLEMS WILL ARISE FROM: A US-SPANISH AGREEMENT ON MILITARY BASE RIGHTS? A US PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN SPANISH DEFENSES?

- A. Conditions Franco may demand in return for such agreements?
- B. Political factors such as the attitude of the Spanish people, Franco's willingness to stand by his commitments, and the effect on the stability of the Franco regime?

- 2 -

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- C. The extent to which Spain could contribute to the implementation of these programs?
- D. The reaction of the NATO powers?

IV. WHAT CONTRIBUTION COULD SPAIN MAKE THROUGH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO?

- A. What are the principal obstacles to the full use of potential Spanish resources in support of the NATO effort?
 - 1. Conditions likely to be demanded by Franco?
 - 2. Economic deficiencies?
 - 3. Military limitations?
- B. What are the prospects of Spain's being accepted as a member of NATO? Under what conditions might the NATO powers accept Spanish participation?

- 3 -

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